

**NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MA**  
**JANUARY 11, 2021**  
**6:00 P.M. VIRTUAL MEETING**

The North Attleborough School Committee held a virtual meeting on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman McKenna called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m.

***Attendance Roll Call:***

**School Committee:**

John Costello - Present  
Kathryn Hobbs - Present  
Kevin O'Donnell - Present  
Carol Wagner - Present

Secretary Ethan Hamilton - Present  
Chairman James McKenna - Present  
Sarah Stone - Present  
Town Council President Keith Lapointe - Present

**Central Administration:**

Superintendent Scott Holcomb - Present  
Business Administrator David Flynn - Present  
Director of Student Services - Meg Camire - Present

Assistant Superintendent Michelle McKeon - Present  
Interim Dir. of Facilities and Grounds - Christopher George - Present

**Student Representatives:**

Shruti Srinivasan - Present  
Dylan Desrosiers - Absent  
Grace Noreck - Absent

Brody Rosenberg - Absent  
Joseph Perriello - Present

Mr. McKenna announced the meeting was being held remotely due to the Executive Order of Governor Baker on March 12, 2020 and read the order into the record.

The Pledge of Allegiance led by Joseph Perriello followed.

Chairman McKenna announced he would be changing the order of the meeting to accommodate Mr. Lapointe who had to leave for a Town Council Meeting at 7 p.m.

***Discussion Items***

Chairman McKenna advanced to the Discussion Item Budget FY21 and FY22. Superintendent Holcomb called on Mr. Flynn for an update on the budgets. Mr. Flynn stated there had been no changes to the FY21 in the last two weeks. Mr. Flynn stated the mild winter so far was helping with electricity and oil consumption which could create savings in the end. Mr. Flynn explained that moving forward he expects to finish FY21 as expected. Mr. Flynn stated he and Superintendent Holcomb would be meeting with Town Manager Mike Borg and Assistant Town Manager Mike Gallagher on Wednesday, January 13th to review the FY22 budget that was voted on at the last School Committee Meeting. Discussion ensued.

Chairman McKenna moved on to the next discussion item of the Superintendent Evaluation. Mr. McKenna explained the evaluation process to the School Committee and stated the evaluation would take place in March. Mr. McKenna stated Superintendent Holcomb would be working on evidence that would be presented to the committee at the February Meeting. He explained after the February meeting the committee would have 2 weeks to complete the evaluation and submit it to the Chairman and Mary Chagnon in order for a composite to be created. Mr. McKenna said he would be seeking counsel on how to proceed with the process during COVID/virtual meetings. Discussion ensued.

***Presentations***

Chairman McKenna moved to presentations and called on Director of Technology Gideon Gaudette for an update on new Chromebooks and distribution. Mr. Gaudette began his presentation by thanking his department individually for their tireless work in distributing the computers to students, teachers and classrooms. Mr. Gaudette stated the following: 4016 students entered NAPS in the fall. In September we were 1:1 with Chromebooks in Gr. 3-12. Students (2,122) in Gr. 6-12 entered in the fall of 2020 with a

Chromebook. Mr. Gaudette stated Acer Chromebooks previously assigned to classrooms and Dell laptops that were converted into Chromebooks were distributed over the summer to students in Gr.K-5 in need of a device. In July, 995 Acer chromebooks were ordered for students Gr.K-2 and paraprofessionals throughout the district. 123 devices were received in September and distributed to Gr. K-2 students and paraprofessionals at Falls School, Gr. 2 students at Roosevelt and paraprofessionals at NAMS. On January 7th the remainder of 872 devices were received and deployment is underway to all remaining students and paraprofessionals. 400 desktops were ordered using COVID funding and will be distributed to all elementary classrooms. Mr. Gaudette stated the 995 chromebooks were paid for in part by the Remote Learning Technology Essentials Grant and the balance by the CVRF Fund. Mr. Gaudette explained the current lease of the chromebooks for Gr. 6-12 will expire in 2022. Discussions will be had at that time on whether or not to purchase any of the equipment. Discussion ensued.

Chairman McKenna introduced Interim Facilities and Grounds Director Chris George. Mr. George reported on the progress of the Community School roof. He stated all things are still on schedule and the building committee will get involved at pre-bid time. Mr. George reported on the following: work has continued with the modular controls at the High School. Repairs on the Woodcock Building roof began this week and steam repairs at the Community School are being done after school hours. NAMS ventilation controls continue to be updated. LED lighting continues to be installed across the district. The grounds crew completed the fall cleanup and have prepared equipment for the upcoming winter season. During the winter months the grounds crew move inside to help maintain the facilities as needed.

Chairman McKenna announced Keith Lapointe left the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Mr. George continued his report. He stated the Community School boiler repairs are completed. Custodial staff are continuing to sanitize and disinfect all high traffic surfaces throughout the school day and are spraying all surfaces every night. PPE supply rooms have been secured and supplies are distributed as needed every week. Boilers are checked every week to be sure they are maintained and up and running. Exhaust vents continue to be replaced by our staff as needed and ductwork heaters are being replaced at the HS. RMF Engineering is assessing all of our HVAC systems. Work Orders come in every day and are prioritized and addressed. Mr. George concluded his presentation by recognizing recent retirees Mr. John Bellissimo and Mr. Dale Gaudette for their many years of service to the North Attleborough Public School System. Discussion ensued.

### ***Recognitions***

Chairman McKenna called on Superintendent Holcomb who congratulated High School Senior Aakash Sunkari for becoming a Coca-Cola Scholars Program National Semifinalist. Mr. Holcomb stated only 1.6% of applicants make it to this level. Mr. Holcomb explained no one from North Attleborough has ever received this \$20K scholarship and offered congratulations to Aakash and his family. Discussion ensued.

### ***Presentations***

Chairman McKenna called on the NAHS Student Representatives to provide us with the happenings at the high school. Shruti Srinivasan gave an update on activities pertaining to mental health at the high school. Shruti reported the Green Bandana Project was under way to raise awareness of mental health issues and giving options to students to seek help if they need it. Shruti explained the group Active Minds have met a few times and are planning a stress management week in the near future. Shruti reported on a survey generated by the MA State Student Advisory Council and 216 responses had come in from our high school students. Shruti reported winter sports were in session with modifications and the yearbook committee just held a holiday sale to purchase the yearbook at a discount. Joseph Perriello announced the Student Council declared January to be Unsung Hero month and the students were focusing on thanking the various staff members at the school for all of their hard work. Joseph explained a video that was done for teachers that included 30-40 students singing their praises. Joseph stated each grade level on student council was participating by bringing coffee, assorted goodies, balloons, notes of appreciation, etc. Discussion ensued.

Chairman McKenna called on Office of Student Services Director Meg Camire for an update for her department. Mrs. Camire reported on the Massachusetts DPH deadline for flu vaccination had been extended to February 28, 2021. Mrs. Camire stated the district had held 4 flu clinics to help ensure all students received the vaccination. Mrs. Camire reported 80 students have applied for exemption from the vaccine. She explained the only mandated surveys being required are immunization and physicals. These will be completed at the required grade levels through March. All other screenings such as postural, sight and hearing, height and weight, and substance use disorder continue to be suspended as a requirement for MA school districts. Mrs. Camire reported that school nurses were on track to receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccination this week. Educators are considered within the Phase 2 of distribution and are scheduled for the February-April timeframe. Mrs. Camire stated they have received over 800 students/staff pre registrations for the rapid antigen testing available for symptomatic students or staff. Discussion ensued.

Chairman McKenna introduced Superintendent Michelle McKeon who spoke on the 2021 Assessment and Accountability Update concerning MCAS. Mrs. Michelle McKeon stated there was a lot of movement regarding MCAS at this time however it is still evolving. According to recent reporting from the Commissioner, MCAS will be administered in the spring. The purpose of the testing will be focused on student learning gaps and identifying students who may have fallen behind in this pandemic climate. Modifications to the testing will include competency determination for the class of 2021, shortened testing times, accountability relief to districts and schools, extending ACCESS testing window and flexibility on scheduling the HS Biology test. Mrs. McKeon stated additional information is expected over the coming weeks as a new administration takes over later in January and a new Secretary of Education will take over. Discussion ensued.

***School Committee Members Community Announcements***

John Costello requested a moment of silence for the lives lost at the Capitol Building last week.

***Action Items:***

Chairman McKenna called for a motion to approve the bills dated December 11, 18, 24, and 31, 2020; so moved by Kevin O'Donnell, seconded by Carol Wagner. No discussion. So voted by roll call vote:

**Roll call vote:**

John Costello - Yes	Secretary Ethan Hamilton - Abstain
Kathryn Hobbs - Yes	Kevin O'Donnell - Yes
Carol Wagner - Yes	Sarah Stone - Yes
Chairman James McKenna - Yes	
Motion passed 6-0-1	

Chairman McKenna called for a motion to approve the minutes dated December 7, 2020 and December 17, 2020; so moved by Kevin O'Donnell, seconded by Carol Wagner. No discussion. So voted by roll call vote:

**Roll call vote:**

John Costello - Yes	Secretary Ethan Hamilton - Yes
Kathryn Hobbs - Yes	Kevin O'Donnell - Yes
Carol Wagner - Yes	Sarah Stone - Yes
Chairman James McKenna - Yes	
Motion passed 7-0-0	

Chairman McKenna announced he had nothing to report on his Chairman's report and also reported there was no need to go into executive session. No discussion.

Chairman McKenna called for a motion to adjourn, so moved by Kevin O'Donnell, seconded by Carol Wagner. No discussion. So voted by roll call vote:

**Roll call vote:**

John Costello - Yes	Secretary Ethan Hamilton - Yes
Kathryn Hobbs - Yes	Kevin O'Donnell - Yes
Carol Wagner - Yes	Sarah Stone - Yes
Chairman James McKenna - Yes	
Motion passed 7-0-0	

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Mary Chagnon.*